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U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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APR 13 2004

FILE:  Office: CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER, CA Date:

IN RE: Applicant: 

APPLICATION: Application for Permission to Reapply for Admission into the United States after
Deportation or Removal under section 212(a)(9)(A)(ii) of the Immigration and
Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(A)(ii)

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT: SELF-REPRESENTED

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. All documents have been returned to
the office that originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application for permission to reapply for admission after removal was denied by the Director, California Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The applicant is a native and citizen of England who was admitted to the United States on August 19, 1969, as a permanent resident immigrant. On January 3, 2001, the applicant was removed to England pursuant to section 237(a)(2)(A)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C 1227(A)(2)(a)(iii). The applicant is inadmissible under section 212(a)(9)(A)(ii) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(9)(A)(ii) and seeks permission to reapply for admission into the United States under section 212(a)(9)(A)(iii) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(9)(A)(iii) in order to travel to the United States to reside with his U.S. citizen children.

The director determined that the unfavorable factors in the applicant's case outweighed the favorable factors, and denied the applicant's Application for Permission to Reapply for Admission After Removal (Form I-212) accordingly. See *Director Decision* dated August 6, 2003.

Section 212(a)(9)(A) of the Act states in pertinent part:

(A) Certain aliens previously removed.-

....

(ii) Other aliens.-Any alien not described in clause (i) who-

(I) has been ordered removed under section 240 or any other provision of law . . . [and who seeks admission within 10 years of the date of such alien's departure or removal (or within 20 years of such date in the case of a second or subsequent removal or at any time in the case of an alien convicted of an aggravated felony) is inadmissible.]

(iii) Exception.-Clauses (i) and (ii) shall not apply to an alien seeking admission within a period if, prior to the date of the alien's reembarkation at a place outside the United States or attempt to be admitted from foreign contiguous territory, the Attorney General [now Secretary, Homeland Security, "Secretary"] has consented to the alien's reapplying for admission.

A review of the 1996 IIRIRA amendments to the Act and prior statutes and case law regarding permission to reapply for admission, reflects that Congress has (1) increased the bar to admissibility and the waiting period from 5 to 10 years in most instances and to 20 years for others, (2) has added a bar to admissibility for aliens who are unlawfully present in the United States, and (3) has imposed a permanent bar to admission for aliens who have been ordered removed and who subsequently enter or attempt to enter the United States without being lawfully admitted. It is concluded that Congress has placed a high priority on reducing and/or stopping aliens from overstaying their authorized period of stay and/or from being present in the United States without a lawful admission or parole.

On appeal, the applicant states the he feels that he has been punished enough, he has not seen his children for six years, and he can be a productive member of the American society. Affidavits provided by friends and family talk about the applicant's character.

The record reflects that on April 29, 1997, and on February 3, 1998, the applicant was convicted by the Superior Court of California, County of Del Norte of the crime of Inflicting Corporal Injury on Spouse/Cohabitant. Additionally the record reflects that the applicant was arrested on May 7, 1983 for forgery. Furthermore the following arrests are reflected in the record of proceedings: November 14, 1984, arrested for Using Force/Assault with a Deadly Weapon – Not Firearm, Great Bodily Injury Likely; May 29, 1990, arrested and convicted for Obstructing/Resisting a Public Officer/Battery Peace Officer/Disturbing the Peace; September 12, 1994, arrested for inflicting Corporal Injury on Spouse/Cohabitant and November 25, 1996, arrested and convicted for Corporal Injury on Spouse/Cohabitant. The applicant denies the fact that he was ever arrested for Using Force/Assault with a Deadly Weapon.

In *Matter of Tin*, 14 I&N Dec. 371 (Reg. Comm. 1973), the Regional Commissioner listed the following factors to be considered in the adjudication of a Form I-212 Application for Permission to Reapply After Deportation:

The basis of removal; the recency of the removal; the length of legal residence in the U.S.; the applicant's moral character and his respect for law and order; evidence of reformation and rehabilitation; the existence of family responsibilities within the United States; any inadmissibility to the United States under other sections of the law; the hardship involved to the alien and others; and the need for the applicant's services in the United States.

Matter of Lee, 17 I&N Dec. 275 (Comm. 1978) further held that a record of immigration violations, standing alone, did not conclusively support a finding of a lack of good moral character. *Matter of Lee* at 278. *Lee* additionally held that,

[T]he recency of deportation can only be considered when there is a finding of poor moral character based on moral turpitude in the conduct and attitude of a person which evinces a callous conscience [toward the violation of immigration laws] In all other instances when the cause of deportation has been removed and the person now appears eligible for issuance of a visa, the time factor should not be considered. *Id.*

The favorable factor in this matter is the fact that he is the father of three U.S. citizen children.

The unfavorable factors in this matter include an extensive criminal history, his aggravated felony convictions, his continued disregard, and abuse of the laws of this country and the lack of any reformation or rehabilitation.

The applicant has not established by supporting evidence that the favorable factors outweigh the unfavorable ones.

Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361, provides that the burden of proof is upon the applicant to establish that the applicant is eligible for the benefit sought. After a careful review of the record, it is concluded that the applicant has failed to establish that a favorable exercise of the Secretary's discretion is warranted. Accordingly, the appeal will be dismissed.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed.